

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 TRSE-00 /015 R

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APPROVED BY EB/IFD/ODF:FHTHOMAS

TREAS:RMYERS

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R 211628Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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PASS USADB

FOLLOWING REPEAT ROME 2108 ACTION SECSTATE 9 FEB 76

QUOTE

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IFAD, EFIN, EAID, OCON

SUBJECT: CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENCY OF INTERNATIONAL FUND
FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

REF: STATE A-6821 DATED NOVEMBER 4, 1975

1. AT CLOSE OF OECD/DAC GROUP THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 5,
U.K. REPRESENTATIVE RAISED QUESTION OF CANDIDATES FOR POST OF
PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.
U.K. GOVERNMENT VIEWS ARE THAT REGIONAL-TURN IDEA SHOULD BE
AVOIDED, IN FAVOR OF CRITERIA OF QUALIFICATIONS.

2. U.K. GOVERNMENT'S LIST OF CRITERIA STRESSED KNOWLEDGE OF
DEVELOPMENT FINANCING, AND EXPERIENCE IN FINANCIAL INSTITU-
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TIONS, PREFERABLY INTERNATIONAL, AND INCLUDED GOOD HEALTH,

IMPARTIALITY, AND PROBABLY LDC NATIONALITY.

3. U.K. SUGGESTION IS KIRSHNAMOORTHY (WHO HAS NOT BEEN SOUNDED OUT), NUMBER TWO IN ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. (COMMENT: PROBABLY ON RECOMMENDATION OF U.K. REPRESENTATIVE LANDYMORE, WHO WAS WITH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND HAS BEEN CONSULTING CLOSELY WITH ITS OBSERVERS AT IFAD CONFERENCE SINCE BEFORE OPENING OF CONFERENCE.)

4. U.S. AND NETHERLANDS COMMENTED THAT IMPORTANT CRITERIA OF AGRICULTURAL BACKGROUND HAD BEEN OMITTED, AND U.K. REPRESENTATIVE AGREED IT SHOULD BE LISTED AMONG CRITERIA AND NOT MERELY TAKEN FOR GRANTED.

5. NETHERLANDS LISTED THREE OTHER CANDIDATES BEING TALKED ABOUT: (A) JUAN YRIART, FAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WHO IS ATTENDING IFAD CONFERENCE AS PRINCIPAL FAO REPRESENTATIVE. FORMER URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES. (B) KENNETH KING, FAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTRY DEPARTMENT SINCE LATE 1974 (FORMERLY MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF FORESTRY IN GUYANA). (C) ENRIQUE PENALOSA OF COLOMBIA, HEAD OF HABITAT (UN CONFERENCE ON HABITATION, WHICH IS TO MEET IN VANCOUVER IN MAY-JUNE).

6. U.S. COMMENTED THAT U.K. IDEA OF STRESSING CRITERIA WAS GOOD APPROACH, AND THAT POLITICKING IN SUPPORT OF UNQUALIFIED CANDIDATE SHOULD BE OPPOSED.

7. COMMENT: USDEL BELIEVES THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR USG TO BEGIN EARLY TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF PRESIDENT OF IFAD AND DEVELOP GOVERNMENTAL POSITION (PER REF AIRGRAM). THERE IS DANGER THAT SECRETARIES OF FAO AND/OR WFC OR SOME PARTICULAR BANK OR RECIPIENT WILL ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE IFAD THROUGH DOMINATING THE INTERIM SECRETARIAT THAT WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO SERVICE THE IFAD PREPARATORY COMMISSION. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE041998
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NHRIEGG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760066-0414
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760226/aaaaawyi.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE A-6821
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENCY OF INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, OCON, UK, US, NL, IFAD
To: MANILA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006